


Lincoln Cagers Top Vi

FROM
THE
BENCH

BY
ART
CARTER



Reversed Routine Wherein
Readers Take the Stand
* * *
Urges Higher Pay for Grid
Officials; More Baseball
* * *

BALTIMORE

HAVING NOTHING SPECIAL that I want to get off my chest this week, I have given the nice readers a chance to tell their stories, instead of asking them to listen to mine. For a good starter, here is a letter from Mrs. Effa Manley, who as an officer in her husband's Newark Eagles' baseball club, one of the six teams in the Negro National League, has raised a rumpus in recent league meetings for a complete upheaval of the loop's official structure—something I've ballyhooed about for years.

There is a difference, however, in the proposal of Mrs. Manley and the approach to constructive buildup in the league that I advocate, which will be explained in detail in a subsequent column. Women are first, always, so take the stand Mrs. Manley.

Dear Art:

Because I was the target of an attack in your column of February 10 in the AFRO, I am writing you this letter, and hope you will give it the same prominence that you gave the article in which you so enthusiastically criticized me.

In the first place, the colored press has continuously criticized our league because of the poor, unbusiness-like manner in which it was operated. Time after time they have pointed out the necessity of eliminating owners as officers of the league and replacing them with non-members. The major leagues have non-members as officers, and I believe that the Negro National League would be acting wisely if it did the same thing.

In your enthusiasm you apparently threw facts to the wind for you say "Baseball is big business and I can think of no business man who would place his lifetime investments in the hands of a person inexperienced in the particular field merely because he had been successful in other endeavors." May I call your attention to the sixteen owners of major league clubs who did this very thing when they named

NO JEALOUSY

Judge Landis commissioner. It is equally surprising to hear you say that the move to place a non-member in as chairman "is born of jealousy on the part of the metropolitan club owners who feel that the league is in control of the western clubs—Elites, Homestead Grays and Philly Stars." In the first place, the Elites operated out of Baltimore, the Stars out of Philadelphia and the Grays are planning to play in Griffith Stadium, Washington, this year. So to try and belittle our effort for geographical reasons is equally unfounded.

As to the success of a woman in baseball, that is a matter of opinion. The fact remains that we do have a large investment in the Eagles and colored baseball, and since you say, and I agree with you, that baseball is a big business, it is only good business for me to take the keenest interest in my investment.

Of course, I realize that in fighting for a business administration for the league I am bound to gain the ill feeling of those who have been contented to permit the league to operate in a haphazard manner. You are apparently laboring under the impression that my move to elect a new chairman was based upon dissatisfaction with the Yankee Stadium promotions last year.

TROUBLES PLENTIFUL

This was just one of the many poor business transactions in which the league was involved. I have been equally as dissatisfied with the manner in which publicity has been sent out from league headquarters, the handling of umpires, the keeping of league averages and releasing them to the press, and other things too numerous to mention.

The present status of or-

ganized colored baseball proves conclusively the poor business direction it has received. This has resulted in small salaries for players, and at best meager profits for owners. The public and the ball players are entitled to a better break. The only way this is possible is through the adoption of sound business policies and an impartial set of officers. This is my position and I shall continue to take this stand.

You also speak of Cum Posey as secretary-treasurer of the league. Abe Manley was elected treasurer of the league by an unanimous vote in 1939, after having served the same office in 1937.

Very truly yours,
EFFA MANLEY.

NEED FOR BETTER PAY

NOW COMES THE CIAA commissioner of football officials, Harold D. Martin of Washington, D. C., who comments anent the piece I wrote several weeks ago on the new plan of paying grid-iron official graduated fees which is slated to go into effect in the fall.

Dear Art:

Your recent editorial criticizing the new plan of fees for CIAA football officials has been quite successful in promoting discussion on the subject as you perhaps rightfully hoped for. However, I wish to take issue with you on one point.

To my mind, you have missed the point of emphasis. Experience and precedent seem to prove the value of recognizing the difference in responsibility of the referee and the other three officials. The very rules of the game require that the referee assume more responsibility and interpret as well as apply the rules. All the leading conferences of the country make the differentiation in fees for football officials.

The CIAA has made a forward step in increasing the compensation for the referee. The real regrettable point is the low scale of fees retained by the association.

Personally, I feel that the large group of well prepared men making up our list of officials are much too intelligent to feel that because of a differential, their responsibilities have decreased. Petty jealousies may develop, but in the long run our officials will surely react as sensibly as the other group has been reacting for years.

I appreciate the space you have given to the subject of officiating. My only regret is that you did not emphasize the very low scale of fees our football, and other officials as well, must serve for.

Sincerely yours,
H. D. MARTIN.

BABY FIGHT FAN

And here's what a third grade pupil, Mildred Jordan, 1814 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Md., composed after the Louis-Godoy fight:

JOE LOUIS
Joe Louis fights every year;
When he fights the people cheer,
People come in the night,
To see the champion Joe Louis fight.

But when he fought the great Godoy,
He thought he was tackling a toy,
When he put him to the rope,
Joe began to wish and hope.

Bisons to Play State in Orange

WASHINGTON

Although Wednesday's game with the Virginia State College Trojans was Howard's last home stand of the season against CIAA invaders, the Blue and White schedule calls for two more cage wars in the Hilltop gym.

Winston-Salem Teachers' College will be guests of the Bisons Wednesday night and the team of Fayetteville State of North Carolina, will stand for the final tiff on the following

Wednesday, March 6.

On this Thursday, the Howardites are at Orange, N.J., where they are to oppose the Virginia State College five in the annual Washington's Birthday attraction. State replaces Lincoln, the usual foe on these occasions, for this year's renewal of the affair. Leaving Orange, the Blue and White treks to New York to keep a basketball engagement with the Lincoln Lions at the Renaissance Casino.



Afro

FEBRUARY 24, 1940

THE MAN
THE BAL

Armstrong

Henry Bids for Fourth World Title

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Henry Armstrong-Ceferino Garcia bout for the middleweight championship, slated for Thursday night, has been delayed until March 1.

Postponement of the championship bout was announced Monday when Garcia developed a boil on the knee.

Armstrong will be angling for his fourth world championship in the match. Henry once held three titles: the featherweight, lightweight and welterweight at the same time. Now, he is only the welter king, having voluntarily relinquished his feather crown and lost his lightweight diadem to the man he won it from, Lou Ambers.

Henry Armstrong was grinding through his training routine at the Main Street gym, Wednesday, with brother-trainer, Harry Armstrong, clocking the rounds. During the rope-skipping, supposedly a three-minute round, Harry forgot to look at the clock—but Henry didn't.

After seven solid minutes on the rope without a let-up, Henry paused, wiped the perspiration from a dripping brow and yelled:

"Hey! Who'm I training for? Nurmi?"

Boxing Rules Violated by Godoy's Play

NEW YORK.—There were no official knockdowns in the recent Louis-Godoy heavyweight title bout, in which Louis won a 15-round decision, but fight fans are wondering if Referee Arthur Donovan was right in not calling any knockdowns.

Boxing rules state that when a man's gloves touch the canvas, he is technically "down."

Godoy's gloves touched the canvas three times in the fourteenth round as he waddled and crouched around the ring like a monkey in the zoo.

However, as each occasion came during a loud outburst of laughter at the burlesque of Godoy, no one, including Referee Donovan, paid much attention.

On one occasion, however, Donovan did grab Godoy's gloves and wipe them off, indicating that they had touched the resined canvas.

No Count Started
The knockdown counting referee at the ringside did not stand up to start a count, and the whole thing passed with virtually no notice. But, under the New York boxing rules, Godoy could have been called "down," and under the rules when a man is "down" three times in one round, the referee can stop the fight.

It would have been interesting to see what would have happened if Donovan had taken this position and stopped the fight.

SUGGS WINS QUICK KAYO

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Oscar Suggs, welterweight of Newport, R.I., scored a knockout over George Pepe in one minute, 34 seconds of the first round at the New Haven Arena, recently.

Racing

WATCH 'EM

By
"GIL"



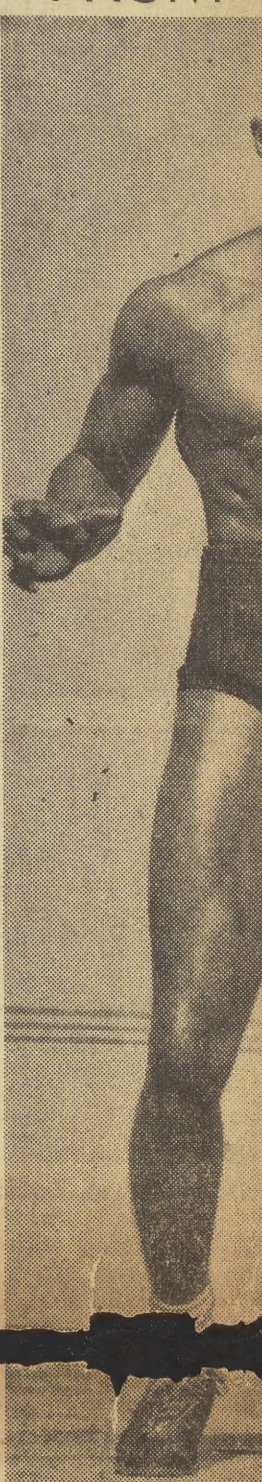
Florida
The Chief Winged Victory
The Loom Dreel
William Palmer Midshipman
New Orleans
Chance Ray Kuvera
Florida Night's End
Uneasy Be Discreet

Horses to Win

By REIGH

FLORIDA
Affirmation Gaona
Big Pebble King Neptune
Count Morse Scylla
Dr. South Solarium
Ell Yale Wildmute
CALIFORNIA
Chasor Landlubber
Capt. Cel Spanish Main
NEW ORLEANS
Baf Cee San Ardo
Dovie Low Sir Blackie
Grand Reina

FROM G



Woodrow Wilson Strode recently launched a car and has triumphed in the date. Girls, hasn't he

BASKETBALL

RESULTS

CIAA
Morgan, 56; J. C. Smith, 43
J. C. Smith, 48; Howard, 25
Howard, 61; Morgan, 46
Union, 44; Lincoln, 36
Lincoln, 61; Virginia State, 25
N.C. State, 41; St. Paul, 25
A. and T., 58; Bluefield, 44
Union, 43; A. and T., 40
N.C. State, 51; Virginia State, 37
Hampton, 37; N.C. State, 33

OTHER GAMES
Xavier, 46; Texas C., 20
Xavier, 44; Texas C., 16
Xavier, 45; Tougaloo, 27
Xavier, 60; Tougaloo, 24
Xavier, 62; Tillotson, 21
Fisk, 48; Louisville, 37
Fla. A. and M., 61; Fisk, 3
Ala. State, 38; Tillotson, 24
W.Va. State, 61; Louisville, 25
W.Va. State, 67; Louisville, 25
Livingstone, 45; Clinton, 25
A. and T., 71; Winston-Salem, 25
Morgan Jayvees, 39; Bowie, 25
Knoxville, 47; Morehouse, 25
Knoxville, 44; Morehouse, 25
Haines, 30; Friendship, 9
Haines, 37; Clinton, 28
Haines, 32; Johnson, 15
Bordentown, 51; Downing, 15

GIRLS
Friendship, 30; Haines, 13
Haines, 30; Clinton, 15
Haines, 28; Johnson, 28
Walker, 21; Va. Randolph, 15
Bordentown, 17; Downing, 15

WHERE THEY PLAY

CIAA
Wednesday (February)
Va. State at Howard
Thursday (February)
Bluefield at Hampton
St. Paul at A. and T.
Paul at Morgan
Howard vs. Va. State (A. and T.)
Friday (February)
Hampton at Union
St. Paul at A. and T.
Bluefield at Shaw
Howard vs. Lincoln (York City)
Saturday (February)
Shaw at A. and T.
Union at Virginia State
Monday (February)
Morgan at Virginia State
Shaw at Smith
Tuesday (February)
Morgan at St. Paul
Wednesday (February)
Hampton at Virginia State

Story Flight Morgan Clips Smith in Overtime Period

Livingstone Wins

SALISBURY, N.C.—The Livingstone men's quintet defeated Clinton College basketball team, Saturday, 45-25.

The game made four straight victories for Livingstone against no defeats.

The score at intermission was Livingstone, 17; Clinton, 11.

By ART CARTER
AFRO Sports Editor

BALTIMORE

Johnson C. Smith's strong quint from Charlotte, N.C., had Morgan State College cagers literally staggering on the ropes for most of the hard fought battle at the New Albert Auditorium, Friday night, but the Bears found new life in the late stages of the court conflict and smothered the Bulls in an overtime period to win, 56-43.

After trailing for 30 minutes of the game, which was the most exciting, although not the best played of the current season, Morgan eased into a slim advantage on Madison Garrison's 3-point surge midway the second half, then piled up what looked like a comfortable lead, only to see the battling Bulls knot the count at 43-all, twenty-seconds before the close of the regulation play period.

Smith Leads Rally

Like some sleeping giant suddenly awakened by some spirited injection, the Bears performed a miracle in the extra period, racking up 13 tallies, while the Bulls were unable to register a single point. The massive offensive attack which completely engulfed the visitors, sent the fans into an uproar, as Captain Spook Smith led the victory rally with 3 field goals and a foul toss.

Deuce Gibson began the winning surge with a flip-in shot from tap. Smith followed with an under-the-basket toss and a charity shot; then Sam Dixon, Albert James and Bill Cain registered follow-up baskets in rapid succession. This marked the end for Smith, and Morgan coasted into a well-earned victory after a hectic struggle, Smith's last two baskets merely serving as additions to the score.

Missed Foul Shots

An analysis of the contest shows that Smith has nobody to blame for the loss but itself, the Bulls having missed eight foul shots at crucial moments. They assumed an early lead in the scoring, with Bowers, Broome and Oliver—a trio of sharpshooters who rate with the best in the conference—looping baskets from all angles.

At half-time, Smith was in the van, 23-20, and held the margin until Garrison's long shot put Morgan ahead at 30-29. Thereafter, Morgan maintained a slim lead until four minutes to go. Here, the Bears held the upper hand, 43-38, and seemed certain of victory.

Smith, however, had different ideas, and two of the smallest players on the court, Arthur Johnson, ball hawk from Hartford, Conn., and his fellow townsman, James Black, registered with incredible long shots to put the Bulls within one point of a tie. Then Black fouled on his final toss, sent the tying point through the net, while the Morgan adherents sighed with mingled disappointment and hope.

Johnson the Goat

Prior to Black's deadlocking tally, Johnson won the goat's honors for Smith by missing 3 consecutive foul tosses, which may have won the game for the visitors. Smith was out of the game thereafter, as Morgan put on its brilliant display of scoring power in the five-minute overtime session.

Bull substitutes streamed across the floor in endless procession in the last minutes of the fray as Coach Eddie Jackson tried vainly to turn the early efforts of his charges in Smith's favor.

Even in Field Goals

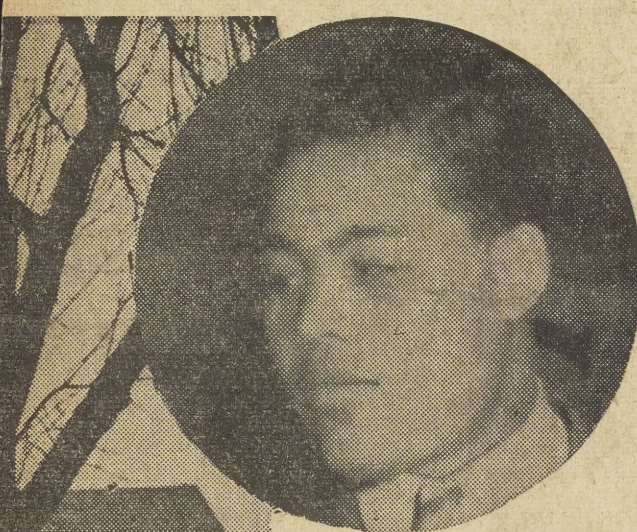
In spots the entire Morgan team played well. Smith, with 19 points, was the wheelhorse, but Gibson, Garrison, Cain and Dixon all contributed heavily to the eventual victory. For Smith, the work of Bowers, Broome, Oliver and Walker was outstanding, the invaders registering the same number of field goals as Morgan (18), but failing on the 15-foot mark, where they counted only 7 times to Morgan's 20.

The box scores follow:

Morgan (56)	G	F	P	J. C. Smith (43)	G	F	P
Garrison, f	2	3	2	Bowers, f	5	0	4
Gibson, f	4	0	2	Broome, f	4	1	4
Chavies, f	0	0	0	Oliver, f	6	3	2
Mosley, f	0	0	0	Grishard, f	0	0	2
Cain, c	3	4	3	Fields, c	0	2	1
Dixon, g	2	6	1	Johnson, g	1	0	1
Smith, g	6	7	1	Walker, c	1	0	0
James, g	1	0	1	Horton, c	0	0	1
Staten, g	0	0	0	Webb, g	0	0	0
Bryson, g	0	0	2	Powell, g	0	0	0
				Watson, g	0	0	0
				Beach, g	1	1	2
				Monroe, g	0	0	0
Totals	18	20	12	Totals	18	7	17

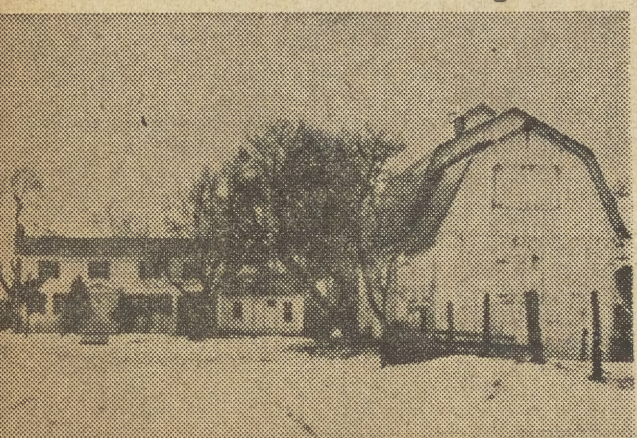
Referee: Dr. Gladden (L.I.U.)

Joe Louis's Trail



JOE LOUIS

The main house of Joe Louis's new Spring Hill farm near Utica, Mich., is on the left. A lover of the great outdoors, the world heavyweight champion hopes to spend every available moment near here after retiring from the ring.



Spring farm, Louis found Wig Lerich and his wife, white (on the left), whom he aided without fanfare. The champion, who has been called everything but a kind soul, was sincerely moved by their aid and moved the Lerich family into the main house and promised to seek that they are "fixed up with other things that you require." He did the good deed in secret.

aces on k Teams

Hackney, white, of Kansas, who was probably more consistent throughout the campaign.

urt Game Tops ICA Holiday Bill

NEW YORK.—The crack YMD basketball team will attempt to make a new winning streak as they take the court against Queens County A.C., in the game of a cage double at the Harlem Branch on Washington's Birthday, today.

YMD and Queens teams are out as two of the leading quintets in the metropolitan area. The YMD boasts a record of thirteen wins as against no defeats. They have lost only one game on their home court. Queens County holds a three-victory over the YMD, having defeated them by a score of 34 in December. Since that time the YMD has won eight of ten games played.

ON BEATS COVELLI
CHICAGO — Jackie Wilson, heavyweight from Pittsburgh, won a 10-round decision over the Covelli of Brooklyn, for his seventeenth straight triumph, this week.

Eddie Dugger Chief Hope of Tufts in IC4A

MEDFORD, Mass. — Eddie Dugger, one-man track team at Tufts College, will carry the school's burden on his shoulders when Tufts makes its bow in IC4A indoor track and field competition on March 2.

The Jumbo team will compete for the first time in the history of the meet and expects to make a strong bid for national honors with Dugger as the chief threat. Tufts alumni and undergraduates' hopes are focussed on the brilliant star of West Medford, who amassed a new all-time, individual scoring mark in two years of competition, with a total of 285 points. Dugger is Tufts contender for national honors in the hurdles and dashes.

Dugger, junior at Tufts, is New England and Eastern Intercollegiate hurdles champion. On his schedule will be the dashes, 100 and 200; the low and high hurdles and a berth on the mile relay team.

SPARTANS TRIUMPH

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — The Dunbar Spartans defeated the Tigers in the 120-pound division of the Boys' Club League, Friday, 25-20. Eugene Williams was outstanding for the Spartans.

N BATTLE OF WORDS



Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis, right, and Godoy, Chilean fighter, whom Joe defeated, as ded wise-cracks during a broadcast from New York last week. Godoy insisted that he wanted to fight champion, and Joe told him to bring along his five pounds from South America because next time "he would lead 'em."



By Charles Campbell

PHILADELPHIA

On a nice warm day last summer while the wind was blowing gently all around the place, a play-off game for the second half championship of the Negro National League was in progress.

The gentle breeze caressed the body dew that hung close to the players at they took mighty cuts at the ball coming toward the plate; as they streaked around the bases, and as they watched the little round white horsehide fall into their glove after a long jaunt after it.

The Homestead Grays were in the field at the time and the Philadelphia Stars at bat. In the sixth inning the Stars began to clout the ball all over the lot and took the lead from the Grays. In the midst of the uprising there was a questionable decision ruled against the visiting Homestead team.

Vic Harris, manager of the Grays, came racing in from his left field position faster than Jesse Owens and demanded that the decision be reversed. He thought his team was being robbed without the use of a weapon. That was all wrong and Vic said so in no uncertain terms. In fact, so strong did he argue that Umpire Turner lifted his brown hand heavenward, pointed his finger to the outergarden and told Harris to get out there.

PLAYERS WANT FREEDOM

It is impossible to print the manager's answer to the umpire but as a result Turner turned his finger from the outer garden toward the showers. But those Grays are a fighting bunch of players and the manager is no exception. As Harris was almost out of the park he turned and tramped defiantly back onto the field and curtly said, "We are playing this game under protest."

Poor Vic must have gotten his leagues mixed up. Yes, he had been reading too many newspapers, his mind was warped. Who was he going to protest to? Supposing there was someone to protest to, what could they do about it?

Maybe the beads of perspiration running down Rollo Wilson, ex-commissioner of colored baseball, were tickling his lips, but I think I caught a little twitch of his lips that meant he was suppressing a smile. Not being a student of mental telepathy, I couldn't tell what Mr. Wilson had on his mind but I did have my guess.

The ex-commissioner knew that the players themselves do not like dictators of any description. They like complete freedom especially in their actions and pursuit of happiness.

Union to Battle G.W. Stars on Court

WASHINGTON.

Negotiations for a post-season game between the Union University Panthers and the George Washington University (white) Colonial Club have all but been completed, the AFRO learned early this week.

According to the information the 1939 CIAA champions and leaders in the current race for the same title have already been obtained for the engagement. Except for some minor details, it is further understood, the Colonials are ready to accept.

The game has been set for the Heurich gym, March 13, at which time both teams will have completed their regular schedules.

Downies Take Double Defeat

DOWNINGTON, Pa. — Downington Industrial School's court teams, after several weeks of enforced idleness resulting from an attack of the flu, were bumped off in both games of a double-header against Bordentown on Saturday night.

Playing on the Jerseyites' floor, the Downie girls went down, 17-15, in their first defeat of the season. The Ray-coached Ironside boys romped to an easy 51-16 victory. As an all coincidence was the thirteenth consecutive triumph scored by the Raymen over the Lewisites.

White's Goal Wins

After an early lead, the Pennsylvania lassies wilted in the home stretch. They managed to pull even at 14-14, but Captain Beatrice White, high scorer with 12 points, sank a pretty goal which decided the issue. Catherine Coleman and Alma Atwood excelled for the Downies.

Coach Ray showed two teams of almost equal strength. The varsity scored 26 tallies, the second-stringers 25 in two quarters each. McNeal, as sub, was tops with 10. Crock Oliver made 7 for the Lewisites.

Regardless of Price

NO BETTER
WHISKEY
IN ANY
BOTTLE

SINCE
1823

